

cost until pay day came. It would be the same with the judicial system; the people would first ask which was the best, and then examine in regard to the cost. He was satisfied that the people of this State would accept, at the hands of this Convention the best system, without counting the cost so closely. The judiciary in this State was self-sustaining; it entailed no expense on the people. The office of State's Attorney was only inferior in importance to that of the judge, yet it had of late years fallen into the hands of the boys of the profession, on account of the insufficiency of the pay.

He maintained that a plurality of judges on the bench of the Circuit Courts was the best system. The increased expense of this system over that reported by the minority of the committee was about \$20,000, which would not increase taxation more than one cent in the hundred dollars, and in view of the greater advantages, no one could doubt any hesitation on the part of the taxpayers. There was much less danger of corrupt influences with three men on the bench than with one. The trial by jury which they obtained from the old country, came down covered all over with eulogies, and the plurality of judges was also derived from the old country, and the people of the counties were just as anxious for three men to settle their law as for twelve men to settle their facts.

The debate was further continued by Messrs. Maulsby, Dobbin and Wickes.

Mr. Farnandis said he had no theories on the subject of the judiciary. He was in favor of adhering to the present system with such modifications as were necessary. The onus rested with the gentlemen on the other side of showing any good reasons why the system should be changed. The three-judge system had been tried, the people had a long experience of it, and had decided to abolish it. The gentleman from Baltimore, (Mr. Brown,) had stated that in the furor of reform the old judiciary system had been swept away, not because of any objection to it, but because it was found in bad company, but the cry had been strung that that effete and inefficient system must be gotten rid of, and when it was abolished no moan went up from bar or people. All the delays which had been urged against the one-judge system pre-